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**From:** CN=Valentina Cabrera-Stagno/OU=R9/O=USEPA/C=US  
**Sent:** Fri 2/1/2013 9:01:33 PM  
**Subject:** Re: [Tim V's notes from conversation with G. Bobker]: Fw: Agency / NGO meeting on  
Lower SJR SED - 11 AM on Feb 1 in Sacramento

thanks for these notes. fish based biocriteria are interesting...we have the doubling goal already which seems measurable and something we can use to ask for more flow since they say they aren't going to meet it with 35% by their own admission...  
cohort based numbers seem complicated to me as in nature there are very low recruitment years...granted now there are more than normal, but still seems like a hard target to achieve/measure/implement/write

--Valentina

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**Date:** 01/30/2013 10:45 AM  
**Subject:** [Tim V's notes from conversation with G. Bobker]: Fw: Agency / NGO meeting on Lower SJR SED -  
11 AM on Feb 1 in Sacramento

Thanks for flagging this meeting, Erin; you kept me from looking like a fool when G. Bobker asked me about the Friday meeting with NGOs when we met for lunch yesterday before the SJR Tribes meeting.

I promised Valentina that I'd relay the following thoughts from G. Bobker that he shared with me at lunch before the Tribes meeting (my apologies if not everything is accurate in this hurried transcription):

1. Concerns with the "Other": The State Board appears ready to establish a flow range of 25-45% (UIF?) for inflows from the lower SJR that are tenuously linked to the adaptive management of the riverine system to reach narrative objectives for "other" habitat improvements. Apparently, the State Board has not defined what these "other" improvements might be (e.g., improved fish passage), and TBI is concerned that if the State Board finds it unfeasible/impracticable to make these other improvements, then it would be pointless to increase flow levels when beneficial uses are unattainable anyway.
2. Vague & Weak Narrative Objectives?: From TBI's perspective, the narrative objectives being considered by the State Board are unnecessarily vague and weak, and they need to link narrative objectives with measurable biocriteria. The salmon doubling goal was a step in the right direction, but the Board appears to be backtracking on this goal.

Note & question from Tim: At the SJR Tributaries meeting, Gary or John Cain expressed the need for advancing specific targets for reproduction and survival of salmonids (e.g., achieving a resilient distribution of age classes). Would these be useful examples of measurable biocriteria we could recommend to the Board?

3. Capping Flow Contributions from the SJR: The State Board appears ready to "cap" total average inflows to the Delta at 35% during Phase 1 no matter what WQS are ultimately set for the Delta during Phase 2. This places a lot of pressure on NGOs and regulatory agencies to make sure the State Board makes the best decisions for protecting beneficial uses during Phase 1 because the decisions made during the first phase will not be re-opened and adjusted later. From TBI's perspective, this continues to place an undue reliance on water from the Sacramento River basin for meeting WQ objectives in the Delta (and might not address the discontinuity of SJR water in the lower river caused by the import of water from the Sacramento River).

From: Erin Foresman/R9/USEPA/US  
To: Tim Vendlinski/R9/USEPA/US@EPA, Tom Hagler/R9/USEPA/US@EPA,  
Date: 01/28/2013 09:19 AM  
Subject: Fw: Agency / NGO meeting on Lower SJR SED - 11 AM on Feb 1 in Sacramento

FYI

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I work a part time schedule (M 7:30a - 4:00p, T - F 7:30 - 2:00p)

----- Forwarded by Erin Foresman/R9/USEPA/US on 01/28/2013 09:18 AM -----

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Date: 01/17/2013 11:06 AM  
Subject: Agency / NGO meeting on Lower SJR SED - 11 AM on Feb 1 in Sacramento

Hey folks,

Thanks for completing the Doodle poll about this meeting. Friday, February 1st at 11 am was the best time for most folks, so let's plan on meeting then in Sacramento. I think we should plan on at least 2 hours, but I'm open to meeting longer if folks think that will be productive. I will circulate a draft agenda in advance of the meeting; please email me if you have suggested specific topics that we should discuss.

I don't have email addresses for all the agency folks, so would you folks please forward this your colleagues?

Finally, if one of the agencies or NGOs in Sacramento is willing to host this meeting in their conference room, it would be greatly appreciated. Right now we don't have a specific location. Please let me know if you are willing to host. I expect we'll have 15-20 people there, based on the Doodle poll.

Thanks,  
Doug

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